

death in 1736. One of these was the basis for the first inaccurate edition of the *Letters of Sir Isaac Newton to Mr. Le Clerc* (London 1754). See: Le Clerc to Locke, 11 April 1691, in: M. Grazia and M. Smu (eds), *Epistolario. Part 2* (Florence 1991), pp. 50-52.

4«. Cf. E. Jorink. "Humble and blasphemous: Isaac la Peyrère, *haec Vo%* and the emergence of radical biblical criticism in the Dutch Republic, in: J. van der Meer and

being promoted to full professor in 1712. 's Gravesande was also appointed professor in philosophy in 1734.

X7. WJ.'s *Grave Mijde. De matheseos in omnibus scientiis praecipue in physica usu* (Leiden 1717), p. 14.

88. *ib idem*. p. 16.

X9. 's *Grave amic, Physicae* (1719-1721). vol. I. Praefatio. sig *3. See also the Dutch translation by J. Engelman, *Wiskundige ^rondbeginselen der natuurkunde* [...] *otie inleiding fol de nuioniaan M: wysbegeerte* (1743). Voorrede: 'Al wie de *schriften* [...] *over de natuurkunde* (-) vergeleken is. zal nauwelijks in twyfel kunnen trekken of met dien naam worden geheel verschillende wetenschappen bedoeld, terwijl ze allen een gegeven de vaar oorzaken der natuurlijke verschynselen te ontdecken onmogelijk is. See R. van Raak, *De sociologische van Jan Engelman. Een poging tot een newtoniaanse wijsbegeerte, (geschiedenis van de wijsbegeerte in Nederland 7* (1996). pp. 99-116.

90. P. *le Clercq, Al the sign of the oriental lamp: the Musschenbroek workshop in Leiden. 1660-1750* (Routledge 1997). pp. 73-102.

91. G. V. Sutton. *Science for a polite society: gender, culture and the demystification of natural history* (Boulder 1995). pp. 213-232.

92. R. E. Schofield. *The Enlightenment of Joseph Priestley: a study in his life and work from 1733 to 1773* (University Park, PA 1997), p. 24.

93. A bibliography can be found in: De Pater. *Wetenschap en wetenschap* (note 85). p. 152. Two translations were made by former students of 's Gravesande: a French translation by Elie de Joncourt. *prolegomena in Boetius-duc*. was issued in 1743-1746 and a Dutch translation by Jan Engelman. a physician and leader of the Haarlem *Natuur- en Sterrenkundig Collegie*. was published in 1743. Work on the Dutch edition stalled, however, and the second volume was never published, probably due to a disappointing timover. This is perhaps an indication of a lack of interest in the mathematical approach of Newtonianism among most Dutch

IIJ.Zuiderxaaf.[^]llet Natuurbeeld van Joh;mncs de Mey (1617-1678), hooglersuar flow fie aan de Illusterc School te Middelburg*. Archief Meikxlclingen van het Koninklijk Zeews <not>chap der Wetenschappen <200". Pp. I -4<>; Van der Wall,*Newionumism and religion in the Netherlands* (note 42K Jonnk. Reading ttc Book of Nature (note 5).

96. J. Ray, De werelt van haar begin lol haar einde. ofiiry natuurkundige godge icerde redencnngen (Rollcrdam I696>.

97. Jacques Lufneu had finished his study at Leiden University in I7IK and Ahraham van Loon in 1720.

9H. Cf. Baillon.'Early cighlccnth-century Newtonianism' (note 65>. Pp. 533-54K. 9^ . Cf. G. Ronmi.Locke et *on iraducteur fran^ais Pierre Coste, avcc Suit lettres inedite» de Costs a Lotzke., Revue de lillcrature comparde 33 (I959>. PP.161-179; G.AJ. Rogers. S.Hutton and . Schuumian.'Pierre Cwsle. John Lncke. and the Third Earl of Shaftesbury'. in:S.Hution and P. Schuurman <cde>. Studies on Locke: sources, conicmporancs. and legacy. International Archives of the Hisioiy of Idca&'Archives Intentionales d'Ilistoire des Idces <197> (Dordrecht 2008X

IOO.S.Schafler.'Glas>> works: Newton's prism and the uses of experiment', ini D.Gooding. Trevor J. Pinch and S. Schaller (cde>. The uses ofexperiment: studies in te natural lienees (Cambridge 19K9). p.96.

101 .'The printing date is marked at the end of volume 2. Dcbaguhcn»' assislarKC is credited in the author's preface.CfL Newton. Trail* d'optiquesur les reflexion», refractions, inflexions, et les coulcura. de la lumere (..JJtnMluit de l'anglois par M. Coste <ur la M^onde cdiliun. uugnenlev par l'au-<eur <Am>Urdum: Pierre Humbert 1720).

102. GOMC. 'Pretace du traducteuf in: Newton. Tniite d'oplique (note lol kxxii-xm.

103. Baill<»n.*Larly eightecnlh'ccnfuiy Newtonian ism' (note 65).

104. A nice cxumple is the Mcnnonite David van Molcm. who used physical principles in his silk iactory. A family* portrait of Van Molcm is adorned with scientific instnimenU,

S. Mandelbrote <eds>. Nature afld Scripture in the Abrahtnic religiorv:: up to 17<>o (Leiden 2009>. PP. 429-450; Jurink and Van Micrt. Isaac Vossius (note 31).

49. Vermij. Amsterdain mathematical amateurs' (n(>te 29). pp. 196-199.

50. Bibliotheque universelie 8 (I6XK). On the authorship of the review sec:James L. Axtell. Locke's review of flu: Pnncipia, Notes and records of the Royal Society of London 20:1 (1965).PP. 152-161. On Locke's impact on continental Kuropc. sce:J. Israel. Enlighlenmmml

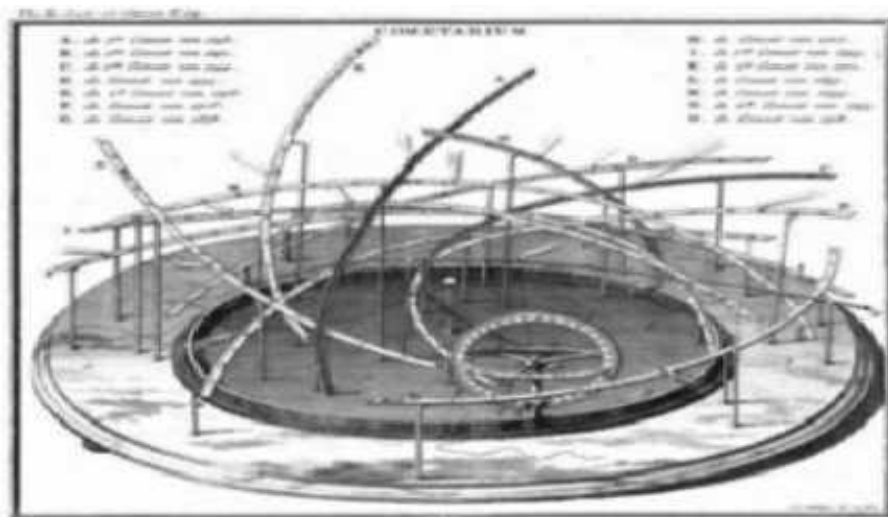


Fig. 8: Nicolaas Struyck's three-dimensional 'Cometarium', designed and built in 1745 to check Newton's gravitational theory on comets. (Source: Struyck).

Dutch translation of Newton's adaptation of Bernhard Varenius' Geographia generalis. ¹***

Struyck was not the only Dutchman fascinated by comets. In the years leading up to the expected return of Halley's Comet, which, when it came, was seen by contemporaries as a triumph for Newton's gravitational theory, several Dutch enthusiasts participated in the search for astronomical discoveries. The surveyor Dirk Klinkenberg, living in Haarlem and active in 'The Hague, was not only a very successful astronomical observer (he independently observed at least five Accidental comets, five of which as the only recorded observer), but was also a skilled mathematician. In 1785 he published a search table and map, in which he calculated, for every month in the years to come, which part of the night sky Halley's Comet would appear in. This initiative was the first of its kind in Europe. However, soon afterward, this was imitated in several other countries.²

Intrigued by the same event, and on the basis of Newton's gravitational theory, the wine merchant Jan Schim from Maastricht tried to calculate the possible perturbations on the comet's orbit caused by the larger planets, concluding that the comet's orbit could be changed considerably. ²³

The Dutch universities

Meanwhile, in the Dutch Republic 'Newtonianism' had become a synonym for 'experimental philosophy'. This meant that other accents could be incorporated. As De Pater has noted, Petrus van Musschenbroek (1692-1761), who graduated from Leiden in 1715,

Amsterdam and Groningen, did so too. They all identified Newtonianism with experimental philosophy, empiricism and even natural history. The scientific enterprise acquired also become an instrument of natural theology.